

ZOOM INFORMATION:

The City Council will conduct this meeting from Council Chambers, located on the second floor of City Hall and via Zoom pursuant to the Remote Meeting Policy adopted by the Portland City Council. A recording will be available in the [Agenda Center](#) following the meeting.

For public comment via Zoom, you will need to use the "raise your hand" feature. To raise your hand via the telephone, please hit *9. You will be unmuted by the host when it is time for public comment.

To join this meeting remotely, please visit: <https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/82039368573?pwd=7ybXr1onKNKmC25TUjOV0cR0IF1jaC.1>

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Dion lead all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Dion called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Councilors Present: Councilor Fournier, Councilor Grant, Councilor Sykes, Councilor Pelletier, Councilor Bullett, Councilor Michniewicz, Councilor Phillips, Mayor Dion

Councilors Absent: Councilor Ali

5:00 P.M. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Robert White (Portland Firefighter), John Jabar (Custom House Wharf co-owner), Steven Scharf (Brackett St), Martin Lodish (District 3)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Dion opened the floor for Council announcements. No Announcements were made

RECOGNITIONS:

PRESENTATIONS:

State of the Schools - Portland Board of Public Education, Sarah Lentz, Chair

Sarah Lentz, Portland Board of Public Education, gave the annual State of Schools Address.

The following Councilors spoke: Councilor Fournier, Councilor Grant, Councilor Phillips, Councilor Sykes, Councilor Bullett

Sarah Warren (Chief of Strategies and Operations, Portland Public Schools)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

State of City Address Meeting Minutes 12.15.2025

Special City Council Meeting Minutes-12.15.2025

Approval of Minutes read together:

December 15, 2025 - State of the City Address Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Phillips. Passage 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)

December 15, 2025 - Special City Council Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Phillips. Passage 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)

PROCLAMATIONS:

Proclamation 15-25/26 Recognizing January 19, 2026 as Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Councilor Phillips read Proclamation 15-25/26, Recognizing January 19, 2026 as Martin Luther King Jr Day into the record.

Proclamation 16-25/26 Recognizing the Portland Fire Department for Their Heroic Efforts During the December 2025 Custom House Wharf Fire - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Mayor Dion read Proclamation 16-25/26 Recognizing the Portland Fire Department for Their Heroic Efforts During the December 2025 Customs House Wharf Fire into the record

SPECIAL MEETING:

Special Meeting of the Corporator of the Creative Portland Corporation

Order 108-25/26 Appointing David Page as a Director of the Creative Portland Corporation - Sponsored by Legislative & Nominating Committee, Mayor Mark Dion, Chair

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Mchniewicz to recess the meeting of the City Council and convene the Special Meeting of the Corporator of the Creative Portland Corporation. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Grant for passage. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. No one spoke.

Special Meeting of the Corporator of the Portland Development Corporation

Order 109-25/26 Appointing Tuck O'Brien to the Board of the Portland Development Corporation - Sponsored by Legislative & Nominating Committee, Mayor Mark Dion, Chair

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Mchniewicz to recess the Special Meeting of the Corporator of the Creative Portland Corporation and convene the Special Meeting of the Corporator of the Portland Development Corporation. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Grant for passage. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke:

Special Meeting of the Corporator of the Portland Fish Pier Authority

Order 110-25/26 Appointing Joe Massaua as a Class B Director of the Fish Pier Authority - Sponsored by Legislative & Nominating Committee, Mayor Mark Dion, Chair

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Mchniewicz to recess the Special Meeting of the Corporator of the Portland Development Corporation and convene the Special Meeting of the Corporator of the Portland Fish Pier Authority. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Mchniewicz for passage. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. No one spoke.

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Pelletier to recess the Special Meeting of the Corporator of the Fish Pier Authority Corporation and reconvene the Regular City Council Meeting. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)

APPOINTMENTS:

Order 111-25/26 Appointing Members to Various Boards & Committees - Sponsored by Legislative & Nominating Committee, Mayor Mark Dion, Chair

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Grant for passage. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. No one spoke.

CONSENT ITEMS:

Order 112-25/26 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of Playmakers Pizza LLC, dba Playmakers Pizza and Pub. Application for Class 1 FSE at 512 Warren Ave - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Order 112-25/26 was read as a consent item.
Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Grant for passage. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following Councilors spoke: Councilor Phillips, Councilor Sykes

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Order 241-24/25 Amendment to Portland City Code Chapter 30 RE: Golf Carts - Sponsored by the Sustainability & Transportation Committee, Regina Phillips, Chair

Motion was made by Councilor Mchniewicz and seconded by Councilor Fournier for passage, as amended. Passage: 7-1 (Councilor Phillips Opposed) (Councilor Ali absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Phillips, Councilor Mchniewicz
Motion was made by Councilor Mchniewicz and seconded by Councilor Fournier to amend. Amendment RE: Rental Golf Cart Definition and License Forfeiture in backup material. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)

Order 103-25/26 Approving Agreements Between the Maine Department of Transportation and Portland RE Improvements to Route 26/100 - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Bullett for passage.
Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke:
Steven Scharf (Brackett St), Councilor Sykes, Dena Libner (Assistant City Manager),
Mike Murray (Director of Public Works)

Order 104-25/26 Approving Agreements Between the Maine Department of Transportation and Portland RE Improvements to Route 302 - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Mchniewicz for passage. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: No one spoke

Order 105-25/26 Approving Agreements Between the Maine Department of Transportation and Portland RE: Improvements to St. John Street, Danforth Street, Fore Street, and Commercial Street - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Motion was made by Councilor Mchniewicz and seconded by Councilor Fournier for passage. Passage 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: No one spoke

Order 106-25/26 Accepting and Appropriating a \$2,500 Donation from Oldcastle Lawn & Garden, Inc. for the Shop with a Cop Program - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Motion was made by Councilor Mchniewicz and seconded by Councilor Fournier for passage. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Dena Libner (Assistant City Manager)

Order 107-25/26 Amendment to Portland City Code Chapter 4 Re: Amusements - Sponsored by Housing & Economic Development Committee, Pious Ali, Chair

Motion was made by Councilor Mchniewicz and seconded by Councilor Grant for passage. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke:
Councilor Mchniewicz, Councilor Grant, Martin Lodish (District 3), Todd Goldenfarb (Co-Developer with Live Nation), Steven Scharf (Brackett St), Mary Costigan (Berstein Shur), Ryan Vangil (President of Live Nation New England)

ORDERS:

Order 113-25/26 Accepting and Appropriating a \$12,000 Donation from Maine Community Foundation, Inc. in Support of Welcoming America's Recertification Process - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This is a first read. Staff is requesting this be passed as an emergency.

Motion was made by Councilor Bullett and seconded by Councilor Phillips to waive

second read. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)

Motion was made by Councilor Bullett and seconded by Councilor Phillips for passage as an emergency. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Dena Libner (Assistant City Manager), Steven Scharf (Brackett St), Gregory Watson (Director of Housing and Economic Development), Councilor Fournier, Councilor Sykes, Councilor Bullett, Mayor Dion

Item takes effect immediately.

AMENDMENTS:

Order 114-25/26 Amendment to Portland City Code Chapter 2 Re: Civilian Police Review Board - Sponsored by Health & Human Services & Public Safety Committee, Councilor Anna Bullett, Chair

This is first reading.

Order 115-25/26 Amendment to Portland City Code Chapter 34 RE: Landcare Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) - Sponsored by Legislative & Nominating Committee, Mayor Mark Dion, Chair

This is first reading.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Councilor Mchniewicz and seconded by Councilor Phillips to adjourn. Passage: 8-0 (Councilor Ali absent)

Adjourned 7:16PM

A TRUE RECORD

Abbey Lombard, Interim City Clerk